

Kansas Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) Proposal

Applicant: Sedgwick County Division of Corrections, Community Corrections

Purpose: To strengthen probation supervision, community safety and client success by increasing behavioral interventions proven to reduce recidivism with adult felony offenders.

Abstract: The proposal seeks to sustain the positions we currently have in place to support substance abuse and mental health issues with strategies proven to reduce recidivism.

Funding

Sustain Current Funding: SFY 2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

\$612,749.98

Date: March 9, 2017

Introduction

Sedgwick County Division of Corrections operates the Community Corrections Act programs in Judicial District 18. Over 2,991 clients are served annually, with an average daily census of over 1,610. The program provides the District Court intermediate level sanctioning and supervision options in sentencing felony offenders to probation vs. prison. Supervision options include intensive supervision of clients living in the community and residential placement as an intermediate sanction and “last chance” supervision option offered to the District Court as an alternative to prison for clients in violation of probation conditions.

Sedgwick County has the highest caseload of community corrections clients in the State of Kansas. The revocation rate significantly exceeds the statewide average of 27% (SFY 16). The local average rate has been as high as 58% (SFY 12) to as low as 43% (SFY 16). This was achieved after implementation of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) which funded behavioral health positions combined with evidence-based practices toward the goal of improving outcomes.

This proposal seeks funding to sustain our current service intensity with behavioral interventions to reduce probation failure and increase client success. In SFY16, Sedgwick County Community Corrections experienced an increase in clients successfully completing probation as compared to SFY15. We met the legislative requirement for success by increasing successful client discharges by 3% or more. Specifically, the success rate rose by 3.6% (53.6% to 57.2%). The revocation rate was reduced from 46.4% to 42.8%. This is lowest revocation rate in the history of Sedgwick County Community Corrections. However, there remains room for ongoing improvements in our local services compared to our own history and far more considering the research on use of evidence-based programming.

The data below illustrates that in SFY16 Sedgwick County Community Corrections achieved significant improvement in every domain with the exception of Accommodation. The Accommodation domain remained the same percentage as the previous fiscal year. Many of these domains are touched by the internal services afforded to us by the JRI that includes cognitive skills classes, group and individual therapy sessions, specialized mental health case management and peer mentoring support for clients that are high risk for alcohol and drug abuse. This demonstrates that core correctional practices combined with behavioral health support services can achieve positive outcomes. Finally, the arrows listed in percent unsuccessful and percent successful columns below are reflective of an increase or decrease in each respective domain as compared to SFY15.

SFY16	Percent Unsuccessful by LSI-R Domain	Percent Successful by LSI-R Domain	Percent Point Difference
LSI-R Domain	Risk Level	Risk Level	Risk Level
	Moderate, High, Very High	Moderate, High, Very High	Moderate, High, Very High
Criminal History	393/873 45%↓	480/873 55%↑	10
Education / Employment	342/564 61%↓	222/564 39%↑	22
Financial	334/676 49%↓	342/676 51%↑	2
Family / Marital	269/495 54%↓	226/495 46%↑	8
Accommodation	163/215 76%	52/215 24%	52
Leisure / Recreation	395/899 44%↓	504/899 56%↑	12
Companions	360/653 55%↓	293/653 45%↑	10
Alcohol / Drug	274/395 69%↓	121/395 31%↑	38
Emotional / Personal	301/551 55%↓	250/551 45%↑	10
Attitudes / Orientation	292/417 70%↓	125/417 30%↑	40

As cited above, the data in the table shows the Attitudes/Orientation and Accommodation domains are ripe for targeting strategies. Simply stated, this means using best practices and proven intervention programming to help clients change criminal thinking patterns. In these two domains, resources need to be provided and intensified with all clients who score high or very high risk.

During SFY 2016, a plan was implemented to assess services and increase use of best practices and a professional consultation was provided to assist in this process. Dr. Shelley Listwan from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte completed a program evaluation of the Adult Intensive Supervision Program (AISP) and the Adult Residential Center. In her report, she identified programming and housing for our Intensive Supervision Level I (ISL) clients as an area to target for improvement.

As a result of Dr. Listwan's program recommendation, employment services are being enhanced by our internal Offender Workforce Development Specialists (OWDS) for our ISL I population at Residential and the Career Quest program is in place in AISP for the general population along with on-going support from the Work Force Center (WFC). In addition, the Program Providers provide cognitive skills programming for these high risk clients. Team CARE (Climbing Above, Reaching Expectations) targets high risk clients (ISL I) who score 29 or above on the LSI-R. Intensive Supervision Officers (ISOs) on the team retain those clients that score 29 or above on the LSI-R. The global positioning system tools are utilized to monitor each client initially assigned to the team at intake to ensure engagement in services and promote public safety. New client orientation is held each week which outlines the expectations and benefits from this placement. ISOs work collaboratively with an on-site JRI therapist, case manager and peer mentor to identify and target the needs of individuals who can benefit from their services.

A significant cross section of the population assigned to the CARE Team experience issues that involve homelessness and mental health. In SFY18, a pilot program will be proposed to the Community Corrections Advisory Board that advocates for the use of ten (10) Residential beds to address this major issue. It is essential to address and stabilize mental health and housing concerns for this population before focusing on other areas such as employment and education.

Proposed Plan and Positions

In conjunction with the Sedgwick County Community Corrections Advisory Board the department proposes the following funding and intervention strategies to improve outcomes.

Program Providers (Priority #1)

Since the inception of the Risk Reduction Initiative in SFY08, we have incorporated the Change Companies, "Getting it Right" curriculum with the clients we serve. Over the course of the last several years we have focused on the delivery and fidelity of cognitive skills programming. We have highly skilled and invested Intensive Supervision Officers (ISO I) to lead all of our cognitive skills and employment groups and are experiencing positive results.

In SFY13, we made an effort to improve outcomes by stretching resources and provided cognitive skills groups without any co-facilitators. This decision allowed us to increase the number of cognitive skills groups and the number of clients served. Best practice is to co-facilitate. The Justice Reinvestment Initiative funding has been instrumental in providing four program providers that now co-facilitate all cognitive skills groups that include the "Getting It Right", T4C and Seeking Safety curriculums.

In reviewing SFY16 data, clients who were engaged in cognitive skills groups consistently remained in our program for longer periods or successfully completed probation. A total of 252 clients attended the groups throughout the year and 75% were still in the program or had successfully completed. In reviewing the SFY16 LSI-R domain data, 68 (sixty-eight) fewer clients were revoked and 5 (five) more clients successfully completed probation that scored moderate to very high risk in the Attitudes/Orientation domain than in SFY15. It is apparent that addressing criminal thinking and attitudes is having a positive impact on both public safety and client success.

The current plan is to retain our four (4) program providers which will allow us to continue to offer the same number of groups. This structure will allow our program providers to reach over 300 clients during the SFY. Our cognitive programming statistics reveal that 75% of the clients that receive these services either successfully complete probation or are still active in our program. We are requesting \$250,853.98 to fund these four (4) positions, \$1,500 for cognitive skills workbooks, \$3,000 for training, \$500 for supplies, and \$2,000 for mileage reimbursement.

Care Coordinator(s) (Priority #2)

Probation clients who suffer from mental illness and developmental disabilities often struggle to meet the demands of community supervision. We want to continue our partnership with COMCARE to maintain a specialized interventions team to provide a collaborative case management approach to this high risk and very challenging population. In reviewing the SFY16 LSI-R domain data, 32 more clients successfully completed probation that scored moderate to very high risk in the Emotional/Personal domain than in SFY15.

We plan to retain funding for the four (4) positions and co-locate them with our staff at each of our locations. This team of mental health professionals will assist in facilitating access to services for clients who have underlying mental and physical health issues and will work to keep them engaged in those services that are critical to them succeeding in the community. We are requesting funding to support four (4) positions:

- Two (2) care coordinators (therapists) that will conduct mental health assessments and make referrals for services accordingly. The therapists may also make referrals for psychological evaluations to assist with recommendations for mental health services. The therapists conduct 1-on-1 therapy sessions, as needed, and facilitate peer support groups.
- Two (2) care coordinators (case managers) will continue to partner with ISOs to ensure swift referrals and access to a broad range of services tailored to meet the individual needs of the client. Care coordinators will ensure continuity of services from jail to community and to assist clients in maintaining stability throughout the duration of their probation.

- The combined cost to fund two (2) care coordinators (Therapists) and two (2) mental health case managers is \$244,996.

Recovery Specialists (Priority #3)

To better address clients with more serious substance abuse problems we propose continued collaboration with Higher Ground, a local treatment provider, to provide recovery services and intensive support. In reviewing the SFY16 LSI-R domain data, 42 more clients successfully completed probation that scored moderate to very high risk in the Alcohol/Drug domain than in SFY15. Our plan is to target these clients for services by risk using their assessed supervision level (Intensive Supervision Level or ISL) as follows:

- One (1) recovery specialist would target our ISL I and II population to help develop a support system and provide 1-on-1 mentoring for this high-risk group while they are in treatment. They will provide case management and work collaboratively with the ISOs who supervise this population. They will maintain a caseload of 15-30 clients and serve approximately 80 clients a year.
- One (1) recovery specialist would target our ISL II/III population in AISP and residential. They will provide similar services mentioned above with one exception. They will assist the staff reentry team with transition planning and support to the clients moving from residential into the community. The preferred referral criteria will include ISL II/III clients that score moderate to very high risk in the Education/Employment, Companions, Alcohol/Drug and Attitude/Orientation domains on the LSI-R.

Local data supports the need for continued services in this area. The proposed partnership will result in a comprehensive approach to addressing treatment needs, specialized services, easier access to support services and the ability to quickly engage clients in services directly linked to reducing risk in the identified target areas. We are requesting funding in the amount \$102,900 to support these positions in SFY 2018.

Voucher Funds

We are requesting \$7,000 to assist in providing for the behavioral health needs of our clients. We plan to allocate these funds for mental and physical health medication.

SFY16 Behavioral Health Outcomes

Performance Measures	SFY 2015 Actual	SFY 2016 Actual	SFY 2017 Estimated
Number of Program Provider clients served	329	252	300
Program Provider percent of revocations	43/13%	40/16%	16%
Program Provider percent of clients with absconder and jail statuses	34/10%	21/8%	10%
Number of COMCARE clients served	292	480	480
COMCARE percent of revocations	17/6%	4/.83%	7%
COMCARE percent of clients with absconder and jail statuses	56/19%	46/10%	10%
Number of Higher Ground clients served	96	201	200
Higher Ground percent of revocations	14/15%	26/13%	15%
Higher Ground percent of clients with absconder and jail statuses	13/14%	44/22%	24%

FY2018

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUDGET SUMMARY		
Sedgwick County Division of Corrections		
		Current Allocation
	PERSONNEL SECTION	
1A	PERSONNEL CATEGORY	
	Salary	178,585.86
	Benefits	72,268.12
	TOTAL PERSONNEL SECTION	250,853.98
	AGENCY OPERATIONS SECTION	
2A	TRAVEL CATEGORY	2,000.00
2B	TRAINING CATEGORY	3,000.00
2C	OFFICE SETUP CATEGORY	500.00
2D	GROUP SUPPLIES CATEGORY	1,500.00
	TOTAL AGENCY OPERATIONS SECTION	7,000.00
	CONTRACTS/CLIENT SERVICES SECTION	
3A	MENTAL HEALTH CATEGORY	7,000.00
3B	SUBSTANCE ABUSE CATEGORY	0.00
3C	SEX OFFENDER CATEGORY	0.00
3D	CONTRACT PERSONNEL CATEGORY	347,896.00
3E	OTHER SERVICES CATEGORY	0.00
	TOTAL CONTRACTS/CLIENT SERVICES SECTION	354,896.00
	TOTAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUDGET SUMMARY	612,749.98

Anticipated Impacts in SFY18 and SFY19

According to the latest Kansas Department of Corrections termination by supervision level data in SFY16, Sedgwick County experienced a total of 181 Intensive Supervision Level I (ISL I) revocations. This number represents 35 fewer ISL I revocations as compared to SFY15. The overall state-wide number for ISL I client revocations was 613. This is a decrease of 51 revocations as compared to SFY15. The interesting point is that the number of ISL I revocations in Sedgwick County is decreasing for the first time in a number years. During this time frame, the community corrections population in Sedgwick County accounted for 19% of the overall state-wide population, but was responsible for 30% of the ISL I revocations for the entire state. This represents a decrease of 3% as compared to SFY15. Obviously, our local rate was very high but it has significantly improved since SFY12. In SFY12, we experienced a total of 300 ISL I revocations and have reduced that to 181 in SFY16.

At this point in the fiscal year, it is uncertain what our annual average will be for the ISL I population. We anticipate being assigned a larger number of ISL I clients since the LSI-R cut-off levels were established with the advent of HB2051. In July, we will review the data to get an idea what we can expect in SFY17. This may have an impact on percentage of reductions and number revocations in the table below.

Based on the demographics of our community and HB 2051, this is an incredibly challenging population to supervise and provide opportunities for creating prosocial behavior. Having the funding to provide more intensive services for this group would help increase success and decrease recidivism. In SFY17, our goal is to reduce the ISL I revocation rate by 2%. The table below shows our projected targets to reduce ISL I revocations from SFY17 to SFY19:

SFY	% of Reduction *	Number of Revocations *
SFY17	2%	181 to 177
SFY18	2%	177 to 173
SFY19	2%	173 to 170

*Annual population will be monitored for any adjustment to revocation/reduction numbers and percentages.

The additional cognitive skills groups, specialized programming and ongoing technical assistance from the Kansas Department of Corrections will assist us in measuring service quality and making refinements to meet the goals. These are two critical components that we plan to address in SFY18.

The successful completion rate for our ISL II/III population in SFY16 was 57%. Overall, that percentage reflects a total of 229 revocations and 325 successful completions. This does represent 31 more successful completions than the previous fiscal year, but our overall percentage remained the same. The ISL II group is a high-risk population, but with added interventions, we will be able to increase exposure to evidence-based programming that has had a positive impact on our client population. In SFY17, our goal is to reduce the ISL I revocation rate by 3%. The table below shows our projected targets to reduce ISL II/III revocations from SFY17 to SFY19:

SFY	% of Reduction *	Number of Revocations *
SFY17	3%	229 to 222
SFY18	3%	222 to 215
SFY19	3%	215 to 208

*Annual population will be monitored for any adjustment to revocation/reduction numbers and percentages.

These goals for the ISL II/III population can be attained through the additional cognitive skills groups and additional resources from the recovery specialists and care coordinators.

The combined efforts of our various cognitive skills groups, collaborating with Higher Ground COMCARE and voucher fund assistance will allow us to reduce barriers and improve outcomes for our clients. By continuing our efforts in this area and with the behavioral intervention support, collaborating with other professionals in the field we expect to improve outcomes and have a positive impact on public safety in our community.